



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Address: COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS  
Washington, D.C. 20251  
[www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov)

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/201,644	11/30/1998	KULDIPSINGH PABLA	83000.1076/P	1829

22804 7590 04/24/2002

THE HECKER LAW GROUP  
1925 CENTURY PARK EAST  
SUITE 2300  
LOS ANGELES, CA 90067

EXAMINER

SAX, STEVEN PAUL

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2174	

DATE MAILED: 04/24/2002

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

## Office Action Summary

Application No.	09/201644	Applicant(s)	P 9619
Examiner	Sax	Group Art Unit	2174

—The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet beneath the correspondence address—

### Period for Response

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR RESPONSE IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a response be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for response specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a response within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for response is specified above, such period shall, by default, expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to respond within the set or extended period for response will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).

### Status

Responsive to communication(s) filed on 12/01.

This action is FINAL.

Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, **prosecution as to the merits is closed** in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 1 1; 453 O.G. 213.

### Disposition of Claims

Claim(s) 1-22 is/are pending in the application.

Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

Claim(s) 1-9, 11, 22 is/are allowed.

Claim(s) 10, 12-21 is/are rejected.

Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.

Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction or election requirement.

### Application Papers

See the attached Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948.

The proposed drawing correction, filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is  approved  disapproved.

The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to by the Examiner.

The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119 (a)-(d)

Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d).

All  Some\*  None of the CERTIFIED copies of the priority documents have been received.

received in Application No. (Series Code/Serial Number) \_\_\_\_\_.

received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\*Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

### Attachment(s)

Information Disclosure Statement(s), PTO-1449, Paper No(s). \_\_\_\_\_  Interview Summary, PTO-413

Notice of References Cited, PTO-892  Notice of Informal Patent Application, PTO-152

Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948  Other \_\_\_\_\_

## Office Action Summary

Art Unit: 2174

## DETAILED ACTION

1. This response filed 6/01 has been received, and the finality has been removed.
2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.
3. Claims 10-21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Crutcher et al (5844560) in view of Carey et al (6122627).
4. Regarding claims 10, 12-13, 15-17, 19-20 see in Crutcher et al: the abstract, Figures 3, 5, 7, column 2 lines 1-19 and 59-68, column 3 lines 18-35 and 54-68 (note the change in the element when input device is detected and when therefore its handling code is associated with the element), column 4 lines 15-38 (again note how the element's look is modified), column 7 lines 48-68. Note that the claim is broad and recites that the runtime version of the element is examined and subsequently identified as supporting the input device. This is status indication of the input device, and the element is marked or modified accordingly. This is shown in the aforesaid, with the computer system examining the element at runtime and determining whether

Art Unit: 2174

the input device is affecting it (which would imply that the device's handling code is associated with it).

Crutcher et al may not go into the details of the class definitions, but these are properties that are associated with interface elements. This is shown in Carey et al: see also column 6 lines 10-52, column 7 lines 32-68, column 8 lines 1-20, column 11 lines 16-68, column 15 lines 18-53, column 16 lines 47-68. It would have been obvious to a person with ordinary skill in the art to have this in Crutcher et al because it would provide a convenient way with which to examine interface elements.

5. Regarding claims 14, 18, 21, Crutcher et al may not go into the details of whether the element delegates the processing of the input to other code, but do show flexibility in handling elements, and Carey et al show delegating various element processes. Delegating to other code is common in the art as a flexibility for handling elements. It would have been obvious to a person with ordinary skill in the art to do this in Crutcher et al because it would provide a convenient way to add flexibility to element handling.

6. Claims 1-9, 11, and 22 are allowable over the prior art of record.

7. Applicant's arguments filed have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Art Unit: 2174

These claims are broader and do not overcome what is shown in the art. Crutcher et al in fact show examining the runtime version of the screen element to detect an ability to process an input device's events and to identify the screen element as supporting this. Carey et al may not perform the same examination but nevertheless the combination is still proper in that both utilize and examine screen elements in a graphical user interface.

8. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Art Unit: 2174

9. Any inquiry concerning this communication should be directed to Steve Sax at telephone number (703) 305-9582.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Steve Sax whose telephone number is (703) 305-9582. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday from 8:30 AM to 5:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kristine Kincaid, can be reached on (703) 308-0640.

The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are as follows:

(703) 746-7238 After Final Communication

(703) 746-7239 Official Communication

(703) 746-7420 For Status Inquiries, draft communication

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-3900.



STEVEN SAX  
PRIMARY EXAMINER